

DGAP-News: Osram continues growth and increases investments in its future

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Osram continues growth and increases investments in its future

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- On a comparable basis, revenue is up by 5 percent on the prior-year quarter
- Company registers fifth consecutive quarter of growth
- Adjusted EBITDA margin remains high at around 17 percent
- Q1 impacted by currency effects and rising research and development expenses

"We had a solid first quarter. Despite the significant headwind from currency effects, we managed to generate further growth while maintaining high margins. From the current perspective, we expect to gain momentum in the second half of the fiscal year," said Olaf Berlien, CEO of OSRAM Licht AG. "The strong and sustained level of demand for our products shows that our expansion of capacity and investment in new technologies was absolutely the right decision because it is enabling us to improve opportunities for long-term growth."

In the first quarter of fiscal year 2018, Osram continued to grow while increasing capital expenditure. Demand for high-tech products, particularly opto semiconductors, remained strong. At EUR1.03 billion, the group's revenue on a comparable basis was up by 5 percent relative to the prior-year quarter. EBITDA adjusted for special items amounted to EUR172 million, which was nearly the same level as a year earlier. The adjusted EBITDA-margin reached 16.7 percent. Due to the strong growth of its operations, the company was able to almost fully offset the negative impact from currency effects, continued increase in spending on research and development, and temporary increase in capital expenditures due to production expansions, such as the new facility in Kulim, Malaysia. Research and development expenses now equate to 9.4 percent of revenue. Osram remains on track with the implementation of its growth strategy

As previously announced, fiscal year 2018 will be influenced by capital expenditure and impacts from currency effects. The recent exchange rate movements negatively impacted consolidated revenue by more than EUR60 million in the first quarter alone. To lay the foundation for sustained profitable growth, Osram is continuing to invest in its production and future technologies. Products based on novel LED-related technology already account for two-thirds of actual revenue.

On a segment basis, the first quarter confirmed that the growth trends and operational strength of Osram Opto Semiconductors (OS) are fully intact. In the first quarter, ramp-up costs for new capacity softened margins, as had been anticipated.

To meet the high demand for LEDs, particularly those used in general lighting, Osram opened its new plant in Kulim, Malaysia, in November 2017. Production ramp-up is going according to plan, and productivity is very encouraging. It is expected that additional capacity of this Phase 1 investment will be realized by the end of the fiscal year.

Revenue in the largest segment, Specialty Lighting (SP) also was burdened by exchange rate effects. Looking at global car production, we see a mixed picture. Our view on the automotive market has not changed since Q4, and we anticipate continued growth, though at a lower level than FY2017.

However, the trend of increasing penetration of LED lighting continues, particularly in the automotive industry. LEDs will increasingly replace traditional technologies in new vehicles, supporting our strategy with this business.

When looking at the Lighting Solutions & Systems (LSS) segment, we saw no fundamental improvement in the business environment. Construction activity for new industrial and office buildings continued to be sluggish, especially in the North American market. As a result, demand for luminaires, electronic ballasts, and services remains weak in this segment. The Board has taken corrective actions and is exploring all options in the Lighting Solutions (LS) business unit. A decision will be made this fiscal year.

In fiscal year 2018, Osram will continue to build on its foundations for the future. The company budgets a revenue increase of between 5.5 and 7.5 percent. The EBITDA adjusted for special items is likely to be around EUR700 million and will be influenced by factors such as currency effects, ramp-up costs for Kulim and increased capital expenditure on research and development, which adds up to a three digit million Euro amount. For

the current fiscal year, Osram expects earnings per share to be between EUR2.40 and EUR2.60. We are expecting a free cash flow between minus EUR50 million and minus EUR150 million. The Managing Board is confident about Osram's positive medium-term prospects and is therefore aiming for a dividend of at least EUR1.11 per share again in fiscal year 2018.

During the past three months, the exchange rate of the Euro gained significantly especially against the U.S. dollar. This development weighs on the key figures of Osram. The forecast for the current fiscal year from November was based on an exchange rate of \$1.18 to the Euro at that time.

You can follow the Managing Board's conference for analysts, which starts at 1 p.m. CET on February 7, at <http://services.choruscall.eu/links/osram180207ir.html>.

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Selected key figures for the OSRAM Light Group in the first quarter

	1st quarter 2018	1st quarter 2017 (nominal)	Change
Revenue	1,026	991	3.5%
EBITDA	157	188	(16.7%)
.margin	15.3%	18.9%	(370 bps)
Adjusted EBITDA ¹	172	179	(4.0%)
.margin	16.7%	18.0%	(130 bps)
Profit after tax	70	92	(24.7%)
Free cash flow	(119)	83	(243.7%)
'000 employees	26.6	25.7	3.5%

(Provisional, unaudited figures. Items stated in EUR million, margin in %, employees as at December 31; negative values in brackets.)

(¹ Adjusted for special items, e.g. transformation costs, significant legal and regulatory matters, and M&A-related costs.)

Performance of the reporting segments in the first quarter

	1st quarter 2018	1st quarter 2017 (nominal)	Change
Opto Semiconductors			
.Total revenue	410	387	5.9%
.EBITDA	102	101	1.0%
.Adjusted EBITDA	102	101	1.0%
Specialty Lighting			
.Total revenue	563	588	(4.2%)
.EBITDA	93	93	0.3%
.Adjusted EBITDA	96	96	0.0%
Lighting Solutions & Systems			
.Total revenue	244	251	(2.6%)
.EBITDA	(13)	(1)	n/a
.Adjusted EBITDA	(4)	1	n/a

(Provisional, unaudited figures, stated in EUR million; negative values in brackets.)

ABOUT OSRAM

OSRAM, based in Munich, is a leading global high-tech company with a history dating back more than 110 years. Primarily focused on semiconductor-based technologies, our products are used in highly diverse applications ranging from virtual reality to autonomous driving and from smartphones to networked, intelligent lighting solutions in buildings and cities. OSRAM utilizes the infinite possibilities of light to improve the quality of life for individuals and communities. OSRAM's innovations will enable people all over the world not only to see better, but also to communicate, travel, work, and live better. As of the end of fiscal year 2017 (September 30), OSRAM had approximately 26,400 employees worldwide. It generated revenue of more than EUR4.1 billion in fiscal year 2017. The company is listed on the stock exchanges in Frankfurt and Munich (ISIN: DE000LED4000; WKN: LED400; trading symbol: OSR). Additional information can be found at www.osram.com.

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